

**VERBESINA MACHUCANA (ASTERACEAE), A NEW SPECIES FROM
JALISCO, MÉXICO**

B.L. Turner

Department of Botany, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78713 U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

Verbesina machucana *spec. nov.*, a yellow rayed, herbaceous species with winged stems from Cerro Viejo, Jalisco, México, is described and illustrated.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, *Verbesina*, México

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following novelty in *Verbesina*.

Verbesina machucana B. Turner, *spec. nov.* Fig. 1. TYPE: MÉXICO. Jalisco: Mpio. Tlajomulco de Zuniga, laçera N al W de San Miguel Cuyutlan en el paraje el llano, Cerro Viejo, matorral de encino, 1950-2100 m, 26 Dec 1986, *J.A. Machuca N. 5321* (HOLOTYPE: TEX1; Isotype; IGE).

Verbesinae apiculatae Coleman similis sed foliis ovatis et capitulis numerosioribus in cymis dispositis differt.

Suffruticose herb ca. 42 cm high. Stems sparsely puberulent to glabrate, narrowly winged throughout. Leaves mostly alternate, 6-9 cm long, 2-3 cm wide; petioles 2-3 cm long, winged throughout; blades ovate, subpinnately veined, moderately to sparsely puberulent on both surfaces, mostly along the principal veins, the margins irregularly serrate to somewhat lobate. Heads ca. 15 mm wide across the expanded rays, arranged in terminal flat topped cymes, ca. 9 cm high, ca. 12 cm across, the ultimate peduncles strigopuberulous, mostly 1-3 cm long. Involucre 4-6 mm high, the bracts 2-3 seriate, subgraduate to subequal, linear-lanceolate, the apices acute to apiculate. Receptacle convex, paleate, the pales grading into the bracts. Ray florets 5-11, pistillate, fertile, the ligules yellow, mostly linear, 4-6 mm long, ca. 1 mm wide,

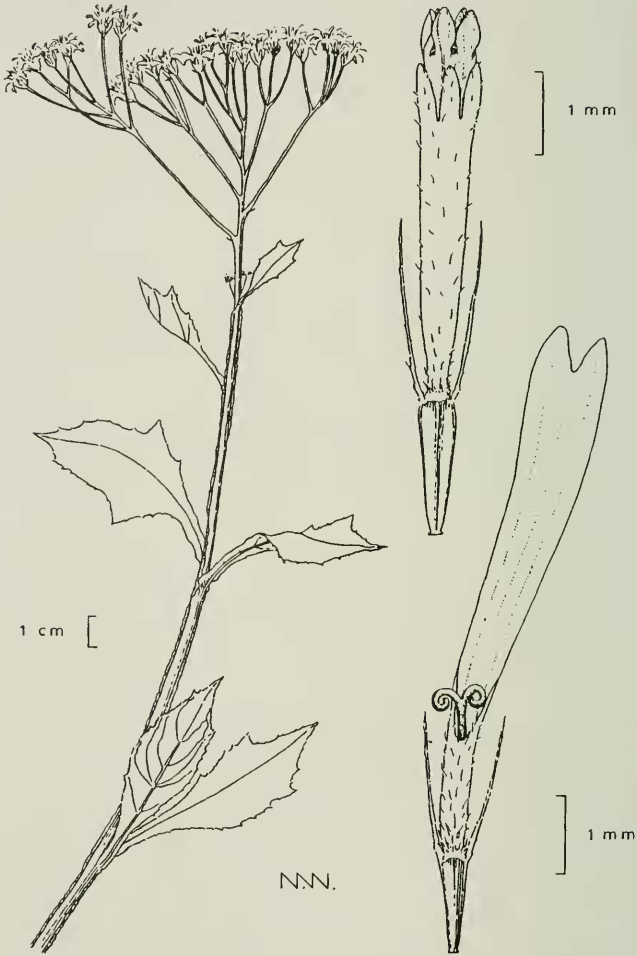


Fig. 1. *Verbesina machucana*, from holotype.

the apices 2(3) lobed. Disk corollas 8-10 per head, yellow, ca. 4 mm long, the tube ca. 1 mm long, densely pubescent, the limb tubular, ca. 3 mm long, the lobes ca. 0.75 mm long, acute. Achene (immature) ca. 2 mm long, glabrous, the pappus of 2 readily deciduous awns, 2-3 mm long.

This is a very distinct taxon with no obvious close relatives. It has the habit and winged stems of species belonging to the *Verbesina pantoptera* S.F. Blake-*V. apiculata* Coleman complex, but unlike these it possesses the many headed, flat topped, capitulescence of the shrubby *V. fastigiata* Robins. & Greenm. complex.

It is a pleasure to name the species for its only known collector, working out of the University of Guadalajara.

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